

# THE HEIGHT OF THE RIDICULOUS

SONG FOR BARITONE

WORDS BY

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MUSIC BY

CHARLES HENRY HART

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THE JOHN CHURCH COMPANY

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# The Height of the Ridiculous

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

CHARLES HENRY HART

*Lightly, with humor*

Piano introduction in 2/4 time. The right hand features a melody of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The piece begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

*p with humor*

I wrote some lines once on a time In won-drous mer-ry mood, And

The first line of the song, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a 'with humor' instruction. The melody is in the right hand, and the accompaniment is in the left hand. The lyrics are: 'I wrote some lines once on a time In won-drous mer-ry mood, And'.

thought as u-sual men would say, They were ex-ceed-ing good.

The second line of the song. The melody continues in the right hand, and the accompaniment is in the left hand. The lyrics are: 'thought as u-sual men would say, They were ex-ceed-ing good.'

*pp*

They were so queer, so ver - y queer, I laughed as I would die, Al -

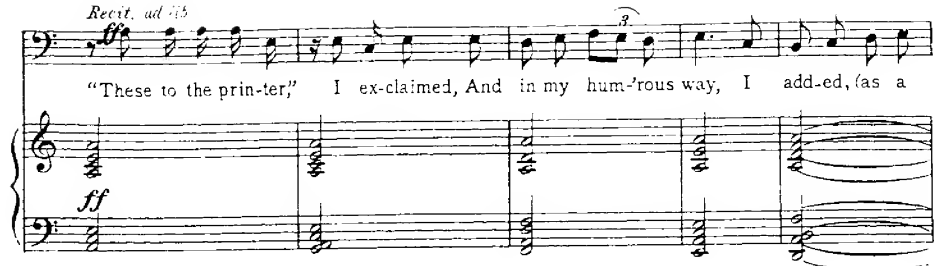
be - it, in the gen - 'ral way, A so - ber man am I.

I called my ser - vant, and he came; How kind it was of him, To

*rit*

mind a slen - der man like me, He of the might - y limb.

*rit* *pp*

*Recit. ad lib*


"These to the prin-ter," I ex-claimed, And in my hum-'rous way, I add-ed, (as a



tri-ling jest) "There'll be the devil to pay". He took the pa-per, and I watched, And

saw him peep with - in; At the first line he read, his face Was all up - on the

grin. He read the next; the grin grew broad, And

shot from ear to ear; He read the third; a chuck-ling noise I now be-gan to hear. The

fourth; he broke in - to a roar; The fifth; his waist-band split; The sixth; he burst five

*marc. e rit.*

**Presto** *lunga p* **Largo** *quasi doloroso*

but-tons off, And tum-bled in a fit. Ten days and nights, with sleep-less eye, I

*lunga* *lunga* *quasi doloroso*

*a tempo* *ad lib.*

watch'd that wretch-ed man, And since, I nev-er dare to write As fun-ny as I can.

*f a tempo*